

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6302

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS SOFIA 0300

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SNAR, BU

SUBJ: US CUSTOMS TRAINING COURSES IN BULGARIA

REF: STATE 046408 AND PREVIOUS

STATE PASS CUSTOMS

PARIS AND MUNICH FOR CUSTOMS

1. FOLLOWING MEETINGS WITH CHIEF OF BULGARIAN CUSTOMS BONEV, BECK AND RAKOWSKY HAVE AGREED TO FOLLOWING OUTLINE FOR TRAINING COURSE MAY 7-29.

2. US 4 MEMBER TEAM WILL CONDUCT 2 COURSES FOR 25 STUDENT'S EACH. FIRST COURSE MAY 7-16, SECOND MAY 18-29. EMPHASIS OF TRAINING WILL BE ON BASIC CUSTOMS TECHNIQUES INCLUDING NARCOTICS IDENTIFICATION, SEARCH AND SEIZURE, SURVEILLANCE, AND INTELLIGENCE.

3. SURPRISINGLY, BULGARIANS EXPRESSED STRONG DESIRE FOR PRACTICAL EXERCISES TO INCLUDE ACTUAL SEARCH OF AIRCRAFT SHIPS, AND AUTO TRAFFIC AT TURKISH- BULGARIAN BORDER.

4. BULGARIANS WILL PROVIDE TRAINING FACILITIES, INCLUDING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR INSTRUCTORS, AT OLYMPIC COMMITTEE REST HOME AT VARNA. BULGARIANS WILL ALSO PROVIDE 2 OR 3 PROFESSIONAL INTERPRETERS (US SIDE TO BEAR COST). BONEV HAS PROMISED FULLEST COOPERATION TO MAKE COURSE
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SUCCESSFUL. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT ALL WASHINGTON AGENCIES
WILL COOPERATE WITH CUSTOMS IN MAKING NECESSARY TRAINING
AIDES AVAILABLE FOR COURSE.

5. BECK WILL PROVIDE DETAILS UPON RETURN WASHINGTON
MARCH 22.
HOUSTON

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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